

# LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2009



“ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY”

**WILLIAM J. CHRISMAN**  
**CHIEF OF POLICE**

[www.leesburgpolice.gov/police/](http://www.leesburgpolice.gov/police/)





## MISSION

***“To Enhance the Quality Of Life within Our Community”***

We accomplish this by:

Preserving peace and maintaining order.

- ❑ Enforcing the law.
- ❑ Protecting life and property.
- ❑ Reducing the fear of crime by preventative and direct control techniques, increasing public awareness to eliminate opportunities of criminal activity, protecting individual rights as guaranteed in the United States Constitution, and providing for additional community service needs.

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## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

WILLIAM J. CHRISMAN

2009

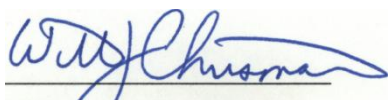
### Comments from the Chief

*On behalf of the Leesburg Police Department, I present you with the 2009 Annual Report. I want to thank the men and women of the Leesburg Police Department for their professionalism, dedication, and loyalty that were displayed throughout the year. One of our most important resources continues to be our fine staff.*

*2009 proved to be a challenging year for crime fighting, especially as it relates to the economy. Through it all, our staff rose to the occasion and displayed the determination, self-initiative and positive attitude that is integral to the overall well being of our community. Obstacles were constantly addressed and overcome. With the creation of Citizens on Patrol and the adaptation to 12-hour shifts, police visibility was increased while costs were reduced.*

*While there is more work to be done, progress was made towards satisfying the department mission of "enhancing the quality of life within our community". Overall, Part I crimes dropped in Leesburg by 10%. These reductions were a direct result of enhanced communication between the police department and our citizens. More than ever, we are relying on community involvement to solve and prevent crime.*

*The Leesburg Police Department will continue to provide excellence in service through positive, proactive community involvement. As a team, the citizens of Leesburg and the members of the Leesburg Police Department will continue to strive together for a positive, healthy, and safe environment for our future and for that of our children and grandchildren. Thank you!*

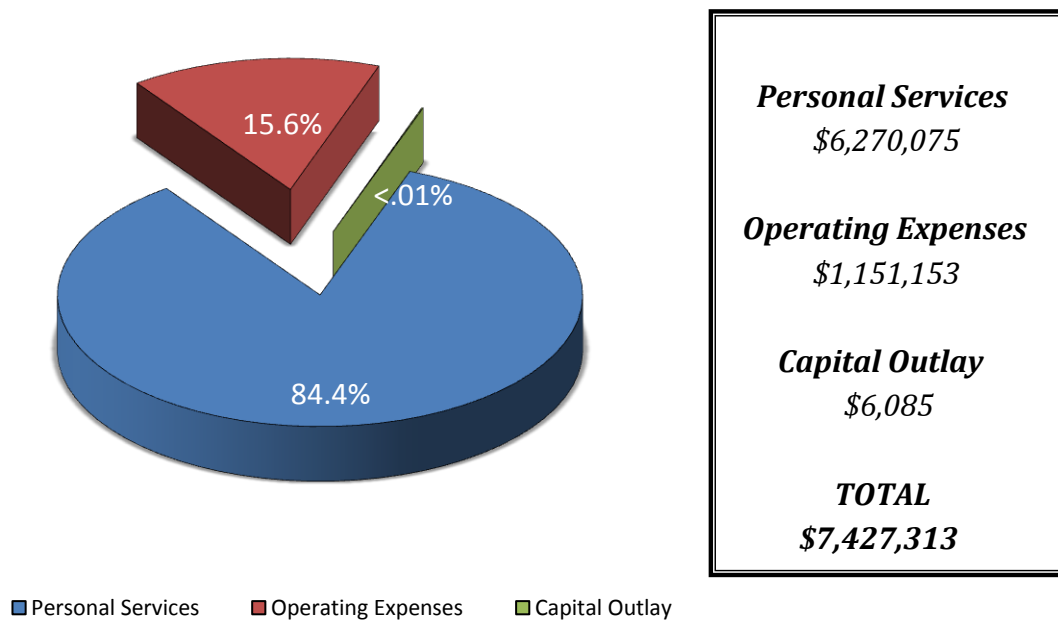
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William J. Chrisman

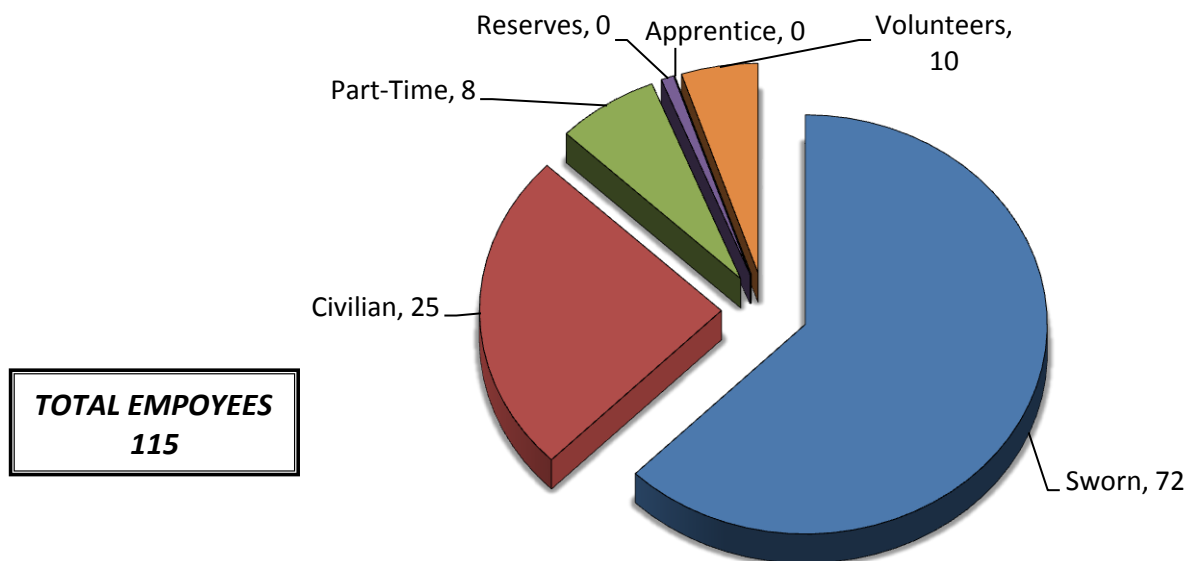
**LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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## 2009/2010 Annual Budget



## 2009 Personnel



# 2009 Monthly Employee Awards

## MONTH

## POLICE OFFICER

## SUPPORT SERVICES

<b>January</b>	<b>Chris Wiley</b>	<b>Melissa Roe</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>John Daniels Eric Green</b>	<b>Amy Serrano</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>Donald Estrada</b>	<b>Lisa Campfield</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>Amanda Galbreath</b>	<b>Sonja Vicchiollo</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>Mitch Anderson</b>	<b>Melissa Inmon</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>Andrew Ensminger</b>	<b>Greg Homrich</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>Michael Neal</b>	<b>Sabrina Ruiz</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>Kenny Lane</b>	<b>Lisa Campfield</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>Matt Higgins</b>	<b>Amanda Brown Christina Johnson</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>Matt Higgins</b>	<b>Amelia Serrano Sabrina Ruiz</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>Jon Graver</b>	<b>Sonja Vicchiollo</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>Jim Dunagan</b>	<b>Amy Serrano</b>



## **2009 Officer of the Year Jon Graver**

Senior Detective Jon Graver began his career with the Leesburg Police Department over six years ago. As the result of his professionalism, he immediately made a favorable impression among his supervisors. Over the years, Jon has earned community trust through his demonstrated performance and his commitment to provide exceptional service. Most recently, Jon accepted a new challenge when he was reassigned from officer to detective.

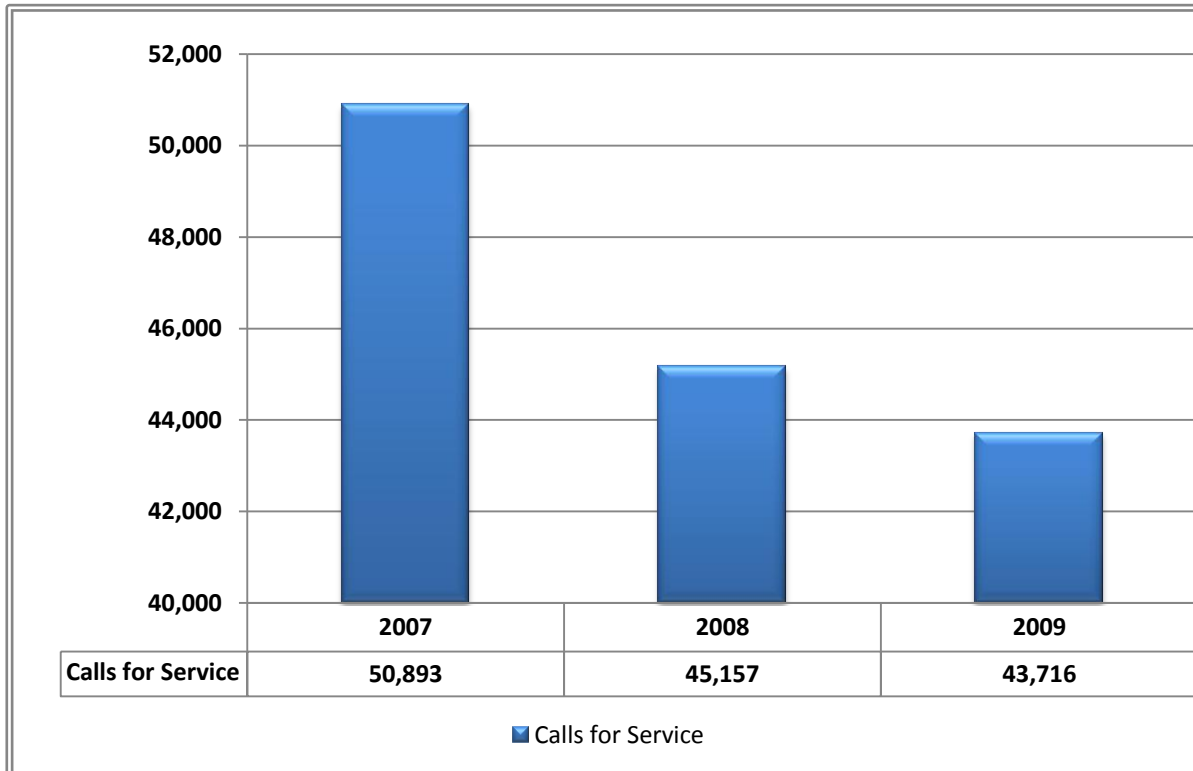
Detective Graver has utilized his training and experiences to his advantage on many occasions. As a SWAT team member, Jon has been trusted to make split second decisions. These decisions have influenced safe outcomes of dangerous situations. He has consistently proven to have quick reactions with awareness for safety, serving several search warrants, all with positive outcomes. He also has been recognized several times for going above and beyond the call of duty.

Jon may be best remembered as a team player. Due to his consistent, appropriate, and impartial application of law, residents have grown to trust him. The police department likewise has acknowledged similar qualities. As a field training officer (FTO), he has shared much of his experience and dedication to the profession with new employees.

Jon never loses focus of his responsibilities as a police officer. The Leesburg Police Department considers Senior Detective Jon Graver a tremendous asset to not only the police department, but the community he so loyally serves.

## Reported Crimes and Arrests

### Calls for Service

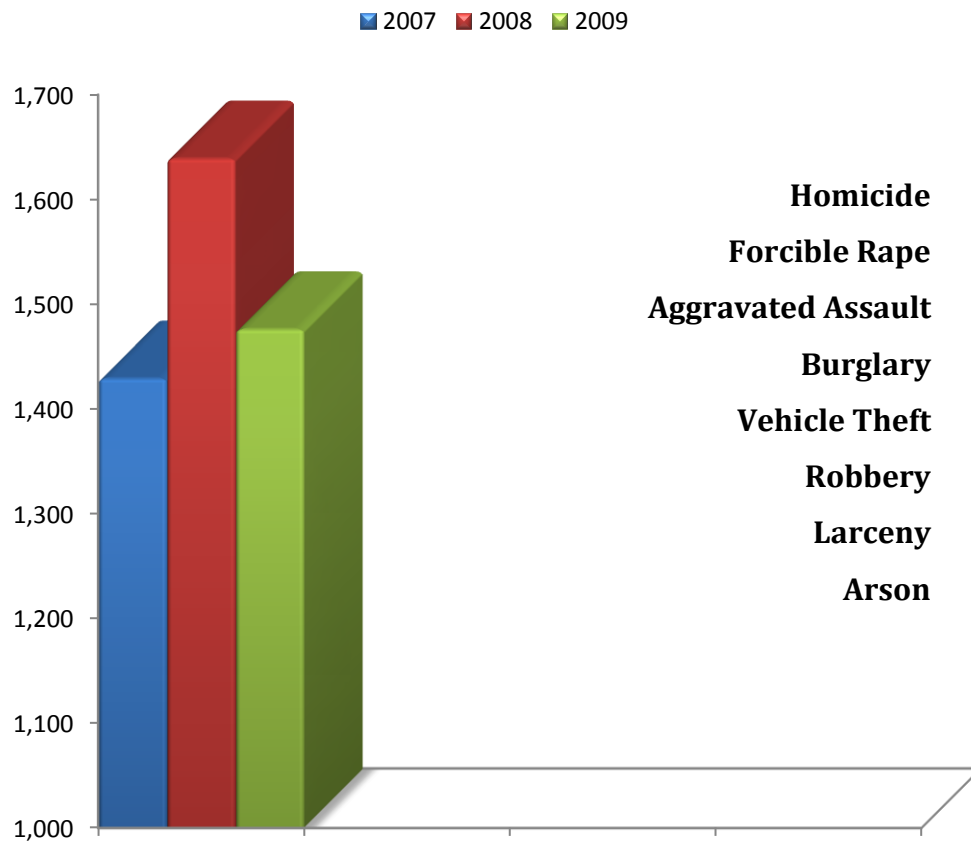


Year	Service Calls	% Change
2007	50,893	- 1%
2008	45,157	- 15%
2009	43,716	- 3%



## Part I Crimes

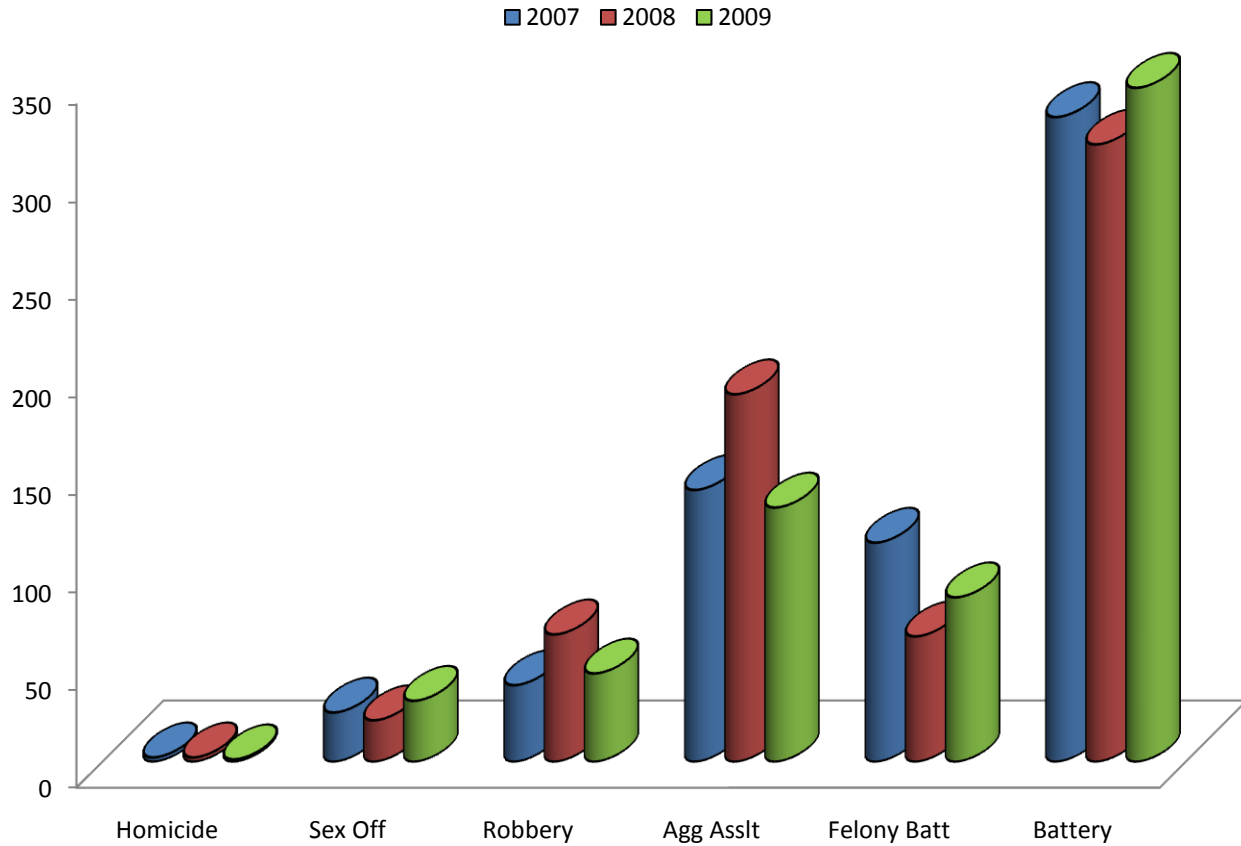
The department has realigned its reporting methods to more closely reflect UCR reporting requirements; hence, the numbers reported in previous years may differ from the current reporting period. The department only counts the number of incidents for person's crimes on the annual report. UCR (Uniform Crime Report) statistics will reflect the actual number of victims; this report reflects the number of incidents.



Year	Part 1 Crimes	% Change
2007	1429	- 7%
2008	1639	11%
2009	1476	- 10%

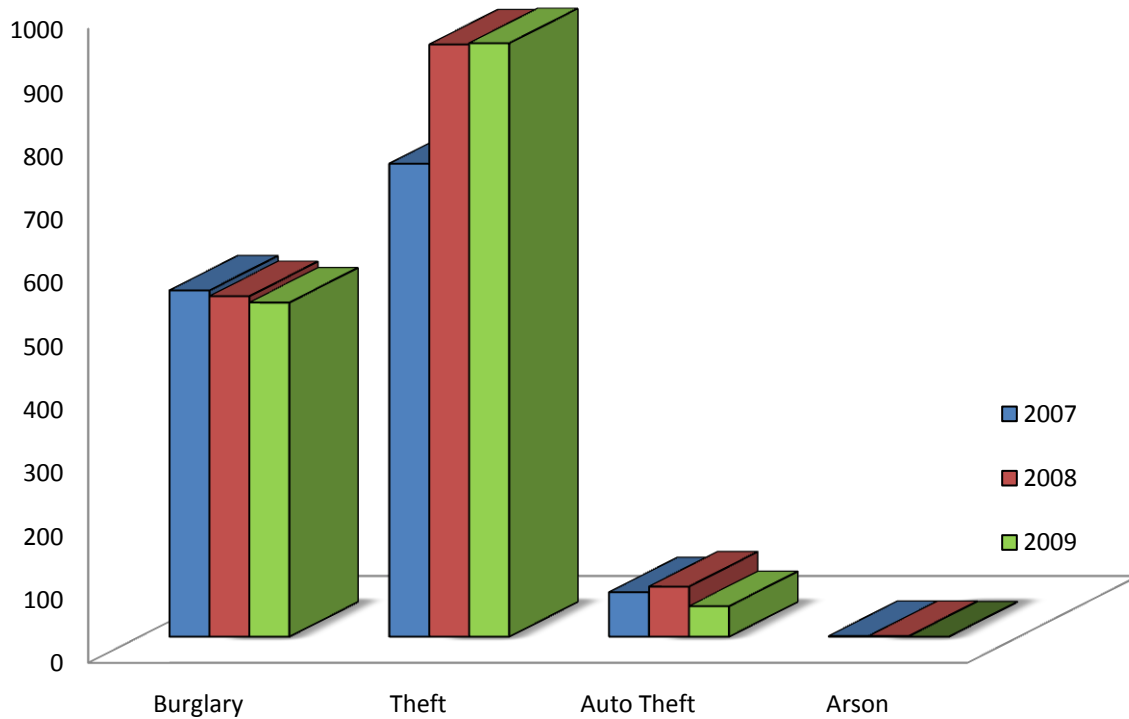


## Violent Crimes



Violent Crimes	2007	2008	2009	% Change
Homicide	2	2	1	- 50%
Forcible Rape	25	21	31	48%
Robbery	39	65	45	- 31%
Aggravated Assault	139	188	130	- 31%
Felony Battery	112	64	84	31%
Battery	330	389	345	- 11%

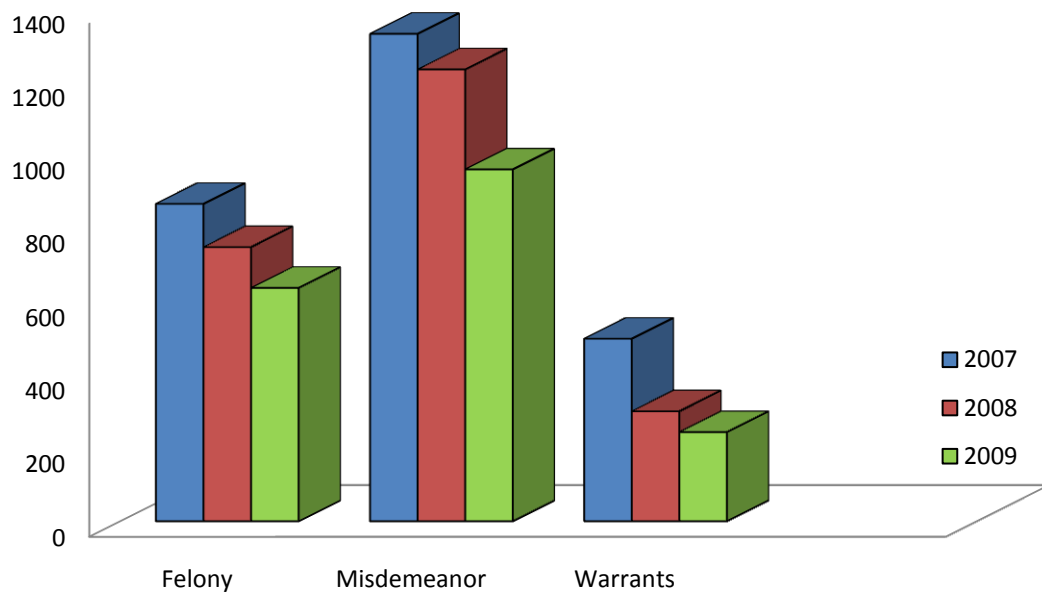
## Property Crimes



Crime	2007	2008	2009	% Change
Burglary	546	537	527	- 2%
Theft	746	934	936	< 1%
Auto Theft	70	79	48	- 39%
Arson	1	1	0	- 100%

## Criminal Arrests

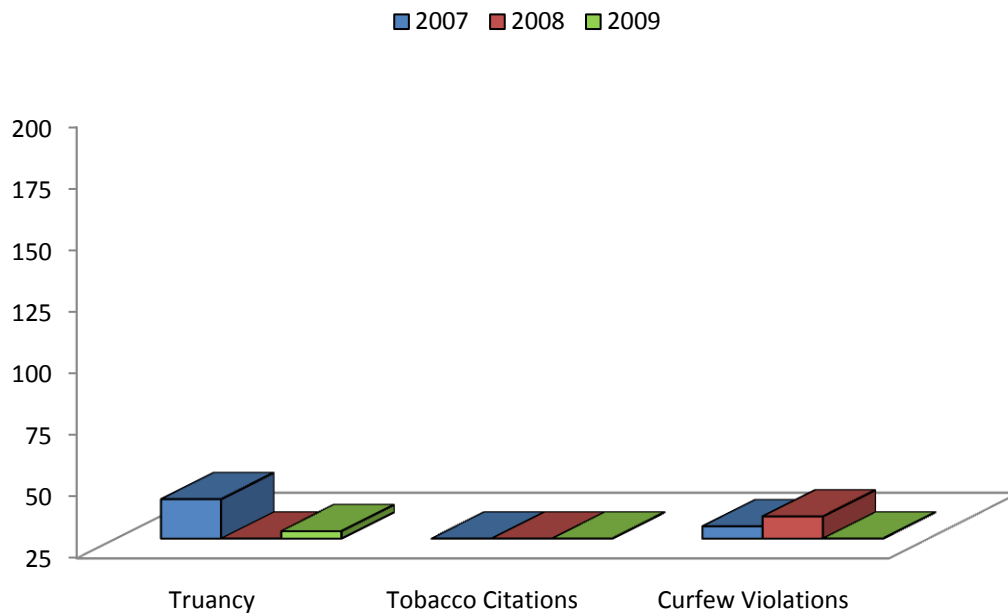
The reported crime and arrest statistics shown have been compiled from the Police Department computer system for a yearly comparison. Arrest statistics indicate the number of persons arrested, not the number of individual charges made. Some defendants have been charged with more than one crime.



Arrests Types	2007	2008	2009	% Change
Felony Arrests	866*	748*	637	-15%
Misdemeanor Arrests	1330*	1233*	960	-22%
Warrant Arrests	498	300	243	-19%

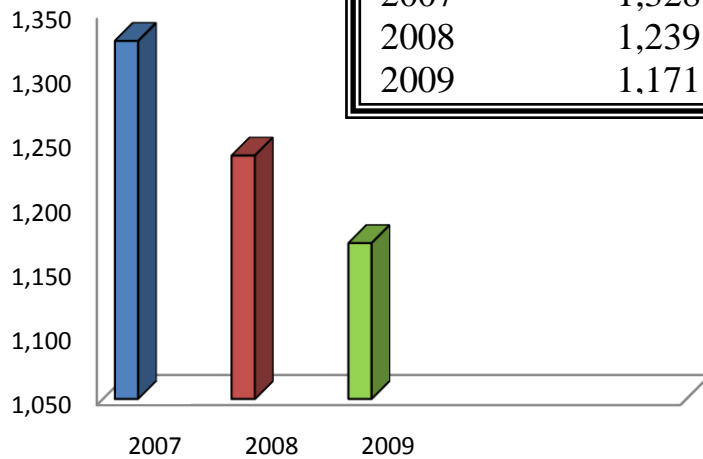
## Specific Non-Criminal Enforcement

The specific cases indicated below are selectively enforced and specifically tracked in response to citizen concerns expressed to department personnel regarding these violations.



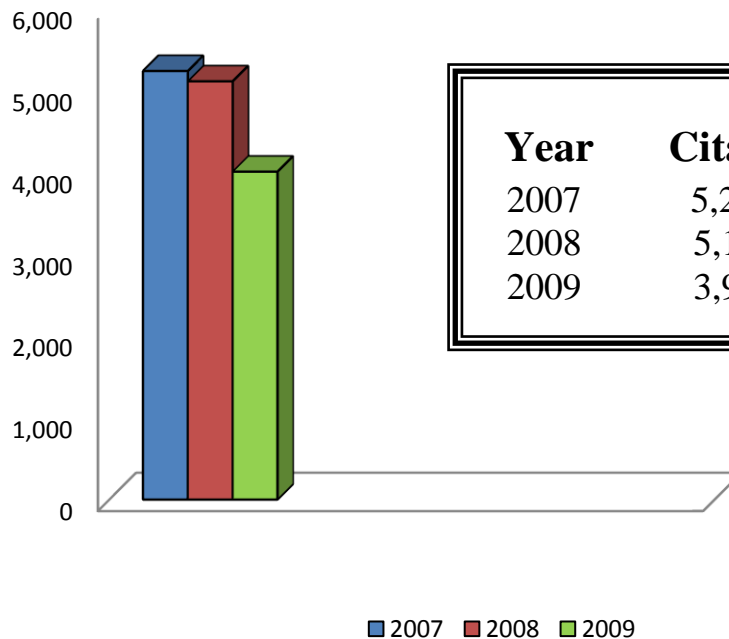
	2007	2008	2009	% Change
Truancy Cases	41	14	28	100%
Tobacco Citations	23	12	13	8%
Curfew Violations	30	34	9	-74%

## Crashes



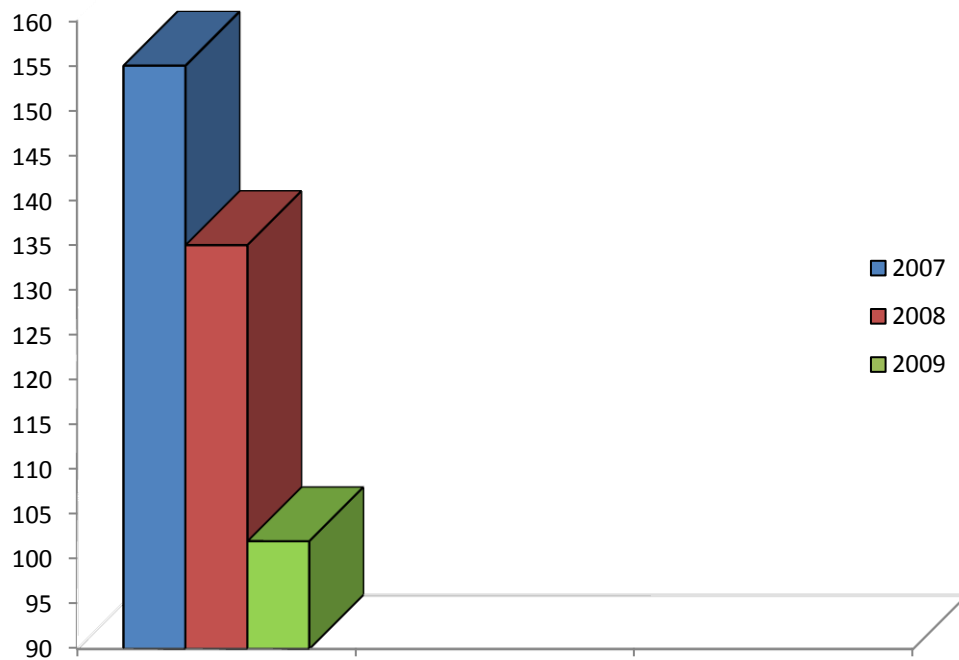
Year	Crashes Reported	%Change
2007	1,328	10%
2008	1,239	-7%
2009	1,171	-5%

## Traffic Citations



Year	Citations	% Change
2007	5,225	-18%
2008	5,100	-2%
2009	3,999	-22%

## DUI Arrests



Year	DUI Arrests	% Change
2007	155	- 4%
2008	135	-13%
2009	101	- 24%



## .08 D.U.I. LIMIT

## **Patrol Division**

The Patrol Division is the backbone of the department. The division is comprised of four patrol teams, specialized units and an Administration Section. Each of the four patrol teams is directed by a sergeant with the assistance of two working corporals along with eight officers. The Administration Section is comprised of a major and two captains.

To better handle the unique demands on modern-day law enforcement, the patrol division is enhanced by several specialized units. They consist of the Motor Unit, S.W.A.T. Team, Canine (K-9) unit, Street Crimes Unit, and the Vice/Narcotics Unit.

The patrol division is tasked with responding to emergency calls for assistance, detection and prevention of crime, traffic crash investigations, traffic enforcement, business checks, and proactive neighborhood patrols. The Patrol Division helps prevent crime and provides a visible presence to the public, instilling confidence and security within the community. Its officers are the first responders who take charge of situations that require immediate action to resolve or mitigate safety issues or concerns.

In 2009, the Patrol Division continued moving toward a problem solving oriented policing style by selecting and training two new canine teams and re-introducing the Street Crimes Unit to serve in direct support of uniformed officers. Additionally, the Vice/Narcotics Unit was moved from investigations to the Patrol Division in an effort to consolidate drug crime fighting resources. The Administration Section assists by providing the flexibility and resources needed for patrol teams to successfully accomplish varied crime fighting initiatives.





## **S.W.A.T. Operations**

During 2009 the Leesburg Police Department S.W.A.T. Team was deployed numerous times to address high risk incidents. Four of these deployments were search warrants on drug locations in the city which resulted in the arrest of multiple suspects for narcotic related charges. S.W.A.T. Team members were also deployed during several anti-crime operations. These details proved worthwhile, netting multiple arrests, drug and property seizures, recovery of firearms from convicted felons, and high profile community interaction. Moreover, while on patrol status, team members were called upon for the apprehension of barricaded suspects and other violent felons. The Leesburg Police Department S.W.A.T. Team was also called upon by the Eustis Police Department SWAT Team to assist with serving a high risk warrant in their city. Both guns and drugs were recovered. Another multi-jurisdictional operation consisted of LPD SWAT Team members working with the U.S. Marshall's Service and the Lake County Sheriff's Office to recover a fugitive murder suspect in the City of Leesburg.



### **S.W.A.T Roundup 2009**



Once again the Leesburg Police Department S.W.A.T. Team traveled to Orlando, to compete in the annual S.W.A.T. Round-Up competition. It marked the 15<sup>th</sup> year of competing for the Leesburg Police Department S.W.A.T. Team. Fifty two (52) teams from around the world competed including numerous international teams from as far away as Dubai. The team also attended 72 hours of required educational classes while at the competition. This year the SWAT Team was able to raise funds to pay for almost all costs associated with the training and competition. Several new team members were added to the team in 2009 and were able to attend this world class training and networking opportunity.

### **Training**

The S.W.A.T. Team conducted over 800 hours of in-service training this year. This training included dynamic building entries, vehicle assaults, physical fitness testing, firearms training, team building exercises, and rappelling.

## **Canine Unit**

The Leesburg Police Department Canine Unit consists of one full service German shepherd, one narcotics detection German shepherd, and one narcotics detection Labrador retriever. The full service Shepherd ("Hunter") is trained in narcotic detection, tracking, building search, area search, evidence recovery, criminal apprehension, and handler protection. During the last quarter of 2009, we were able to purchase two detection dogs; German shepherd "Haas" and Labrador retriever "Cooper".



## **Training**

During 2009 our senior K-9 handler, S.O. Kenneth Lane was certified as a full service and detection dog trainer. S.O. Lane also retired his last partner, a full service Shepherd ("Hutch") and is almost completed training with K-9 "Hunter". In addition to his own dog, he has been tasked with the complete training of our new detection dogs. The training takes place locally as well as with the Lake County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit in Astatula, FL. The LCSO lead instructor, Deputy Kurt Dumond is a CJSTC certified K-9 Training Team Instructor / Evaluator and is assisting S.O. Lane with the training of our new dogs. Training sessions include all aspects of the team's capabilities as well as "real world" scenarios to evaluate proficiency.

## **Motor Squad**



The motor squad is made up of one Sergeant and two police officers who are specifically assigned to work selective traffic enforcement and investigate traffic crashes. The motor unit currently has two 2007 Harley-Davidsons and one 2009. The police motorcycles provide the motor officer better mobility in congested areas. The officers also patrol in an unmarked Chevrolet Tahoe to enforce traffic complaints in residential areas

as well as enforcement of targeting aggressive driving on the highways.

During 2009, the Leesburg Police Department investigated 1171 traffic crashes. Of these traffic crashes, the motor unit investigated approximately 39 percent of them. Additionally, the police department issued 3999 uniform traffic citations with the motor unit issuing approximately 24 percent of the total.

The motor officers have been specially trained in the art of Traffic Homicide Investigations. During 2009, the unit investigated 4 traffic fatalities and two preliminary traffic fatalities. The number of traffic fatalities declined in 2009 in comparison to 2008.

During the 2009 year, the motor squad personnel were temporarily reduced to two officers due to departmental needs. The third officer was reassigned to the Street Crimes unit.

The police department's mission statement is deeply rooted in the motor squad, which is demonstrated in motorcycle related projects throughout the year. The unit participated in Toys for Tots run, B.A.C.A. (Bikers Against Child Abuse), Bikefest, the Christmas Parade, and Cops & Kids Day.

The goal of the motor squad is to increase public awareness of the dangers of aggressive driving and enforce the traffic laws as needed to encourage proper driving habits.





## **Criminal Investigations Division**

The Criminal Investigations Division is responsible for all felony investigations and all evidence collected by the department's officers. In addition to felony investigations, the division also investigates missing persons, domestic batteries, and child and elder abuse cases. These investigations added an additional 541 cases for the year.

The division consists of an evidence technician, six detectives, a corporal, a sergeant, and a captain. The division investigates an average of 164 incidents each month. In 2009, department records reflected 1,431 felonies for the year. The division received a total of 5,578 items which were processed through the evidence control room.



During 2009 there were several changes to the Criminal Investigations Division. The division welcomed a new detective, corporal, sergeant, and a captain.

The total street value of narcotics seized was \$90,003.00. A total of \$18,660.54 in U.S. currency was seized department wide.

	2007	2008	2009
Cases Assigned	2,176	1801	1972
Cases Cleared	1,360	718	923
Felony Arrests	259	238	177
Arrests Warrants Filed with SAO		210	184



## **Support Services Division**

The Support Services Division has the mission of performing support activities for Patrol and the Criminal Investigations Divisions. The division consists of the Community Services Section, Communications, Records, and Code Enforcement.

### **Community Services:**


#### **Building Community Partnerships**

The Community Services Section conducted over seventy presentations to local churches, civic groups, and community action groups within the Leesburg area during 2009. The presentations included crime prevention, personal safety, neighborhood watch, drug education, child safety, and school safety.

The section currently has one certified crime prevention practitioner who received his training through the Florida Attorney General's Office. This training has provided the necessary tools for more effective community problem solving and presentations.



The Community Services Section continues to work hand-in-hand with the established neighborhood watch groups within our community. By networking with a variety of community groups, the community services sergeant has helped keep the public informed about topics of interest such as current city events, crime trends, home and personal safety, plus information about internet fraud/scams. The sergeant is also responsible for setting up and maintaining working neighborhood watch groups in our communities. Below is a listing of some of the groups.

	<u>Active Groups</u>	<u>In Process</u>
	Carver Heights Legacy Westside Oaks Lake Griffin M.H.P. Royal Oak Estates	The Crossings Heritage Estates Arlington Ridge Leesburg Landing M.H.P. Coachwood Colony



*Smokey the Bear and McGruff strikes a pose during a school event.*

**The following programs and affiliations were continued during the 2009 calendar year:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fingerprinting Citizens</li> <li>• Leadership of Lake County Media Day</li> <li>• Junior Achievement</li> <li>• Black Heritage Festival</li> <li>• Participation in the MLK Community Celebrations</li> <li>• Leesburg Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>• Participated in the Downtown Leesburg Halloween &amp; Christmas Programs</li> <li>• Citizens Academy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christmas Bicycle Giveaway</li> <li>• "Kritters for Kids"</li> <li>• "If I Were a Thief"</li> <li>• Junior Athletic Games (JAG)</li> <li>• Safety Expo</li> <li>• Alzheimer's &amp; Dementia Registry</li> <li>• Safety talks &amp; tours of local Cub Scout Packs</li> <li>• Parenting Awareness Training (Drug &amp; Gang education)</li> <li>• Citizens on Patrol</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neighborhood Watch Program</li> <li>• Crime prevention presentations for local businesses</li> <li>• Presentations to the Lake County Senior Center on elderly fraud</li> <li>• Presentations on Internet stalking for teenagers</li> <li>• Bank robbery prevention classes for local banks.</li> <li>• Senior Expo</li> <li>• Career Day</li> </ul>
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## **Junior Athletic Games**



The Leesburg Police Department Community Services Section held its annual Junior Athletic Games (JAG) in March of 2009 at the Leesburg High School football field. This unique program gives the area's elementary school students a chance to compete in seven different events. The students participated in the following events: football throw, soccer ball kick, 50 yard dash, 400 yard relay, softball throw, long jump, 100 yard dash, and the award ceremony.

The students were taught principles of good sportsmanship and given the opportunity to apply them in friendly competition. Students placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> received medals for their accomplishments with the remaining receiving a letter of participation in recognition of their effort. The department also gave each competitor a t-shirt to commemorate their involvement in the event, which many have come to view as instrumental to helping mold strong bodies, minds, and build esteem, while exemplifying good sportsmanship.

## **Bicycle Give-away/ Food Drive**

Thanks to the generosity of donors, the department was able to continue the Christmas Bicycle Give-away program in 2009. Charitable giving enabled the department to purchase and give away 48 new bicycles to some of the areas most needy children. The 19 year old program has provided hundreds of bicycles to the underprivileged. It has grown from when police officers repaired and gave away abandoned and unclaimed bicycles to its current state of purchasing new ones. The hard work and charity of countless officers and citizens is what makes the program work, all done without taxpayer money.

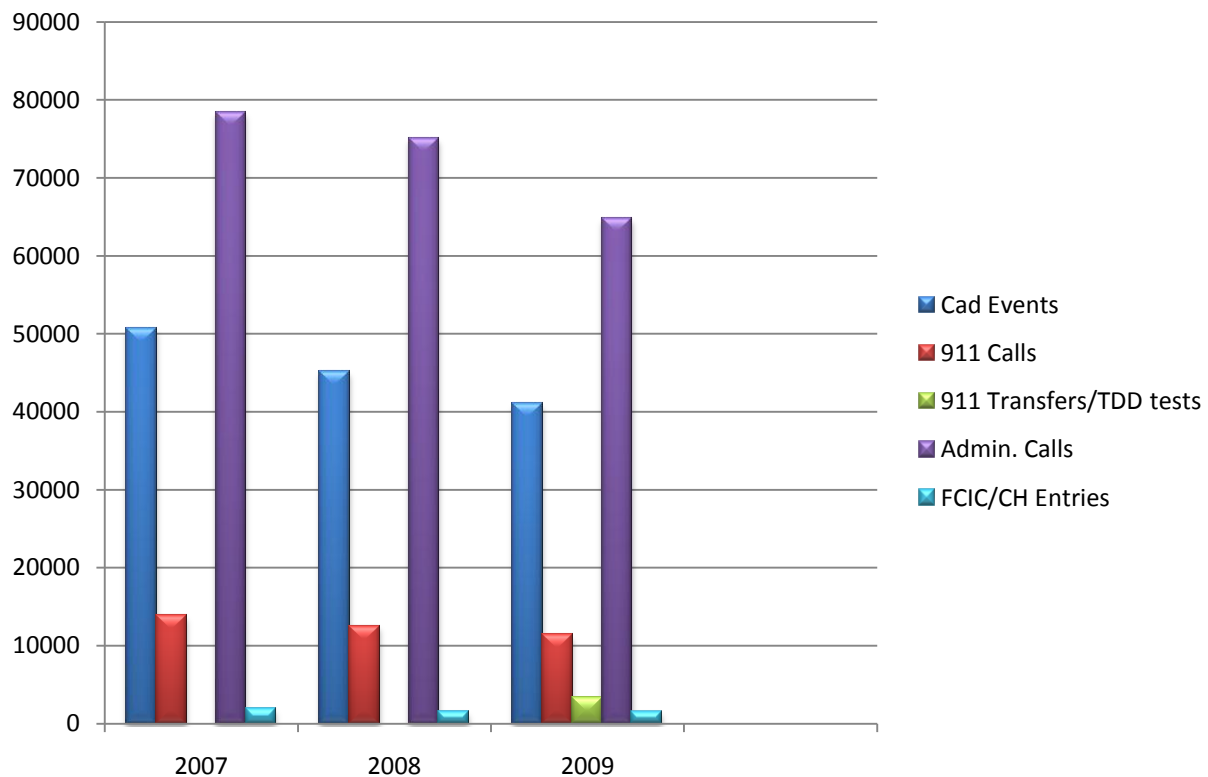




## **Communications Section**

The Communications Section answered 79,334 telephone calls in 2009. Approximately 11,325 were 9-1-1 calls, 3229 were transfers to EMS, 174 were TDD calls/test calls, and 64,780 were received on non-emergency and administrative lines. There were 668 hours of training and instruction accomplished during 2009.

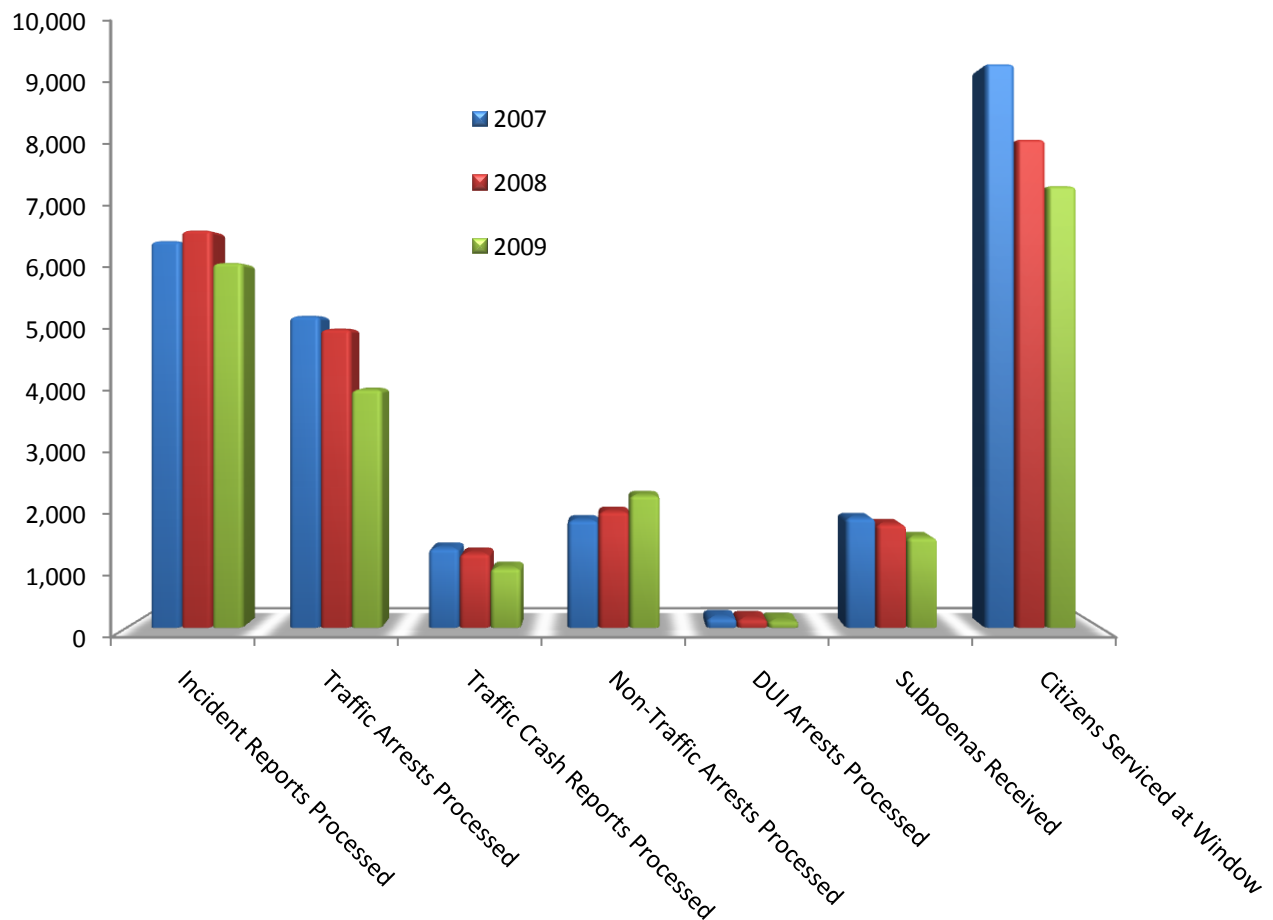
The section underwent a major technological improvement with the implementation a 700/800 MHz county-wide radio system. This partnership with Lake County involved all public safety entities within the county. The system gives all law enforcement, fire fighters, and emergency medical technicians the ability to communicate on a shared radio system. All equipment, equipment maintenance, and training were provided at no cost to local units of government.



## **Records Section**

The Records Section processed 6,119 incident reports, 995 traffic crash reports, 3,999 traffic tickets, 2,216 non-traffic arrests, and accepted 1,511 subpoenas for court appearances. Records logs indicate 7,418 citizens came into the lobby and were assisted by members of the Section.

The Records Section employees either attended or instructed a total of 180 hours of training in 2009.



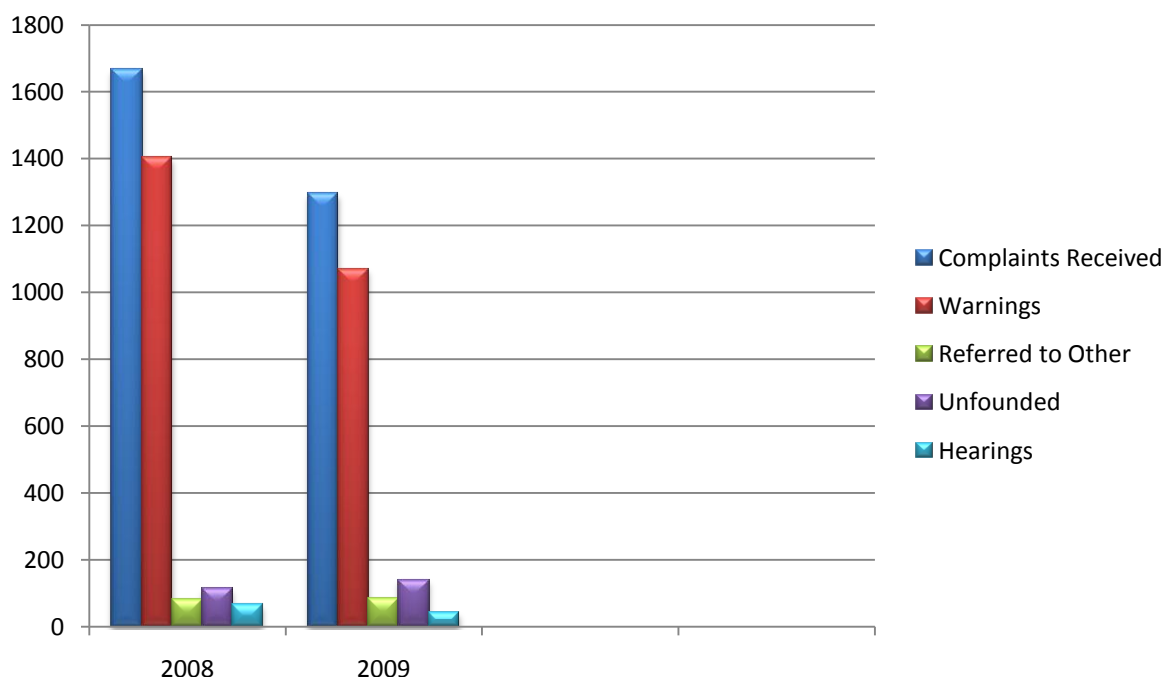
## **Code Enforcement**

The Code Enforcement Section received 1,296 calls for service during the 2009 calendar year. Corrective action was taken to abate many violations and compliance was usually obtained. Cases brought before the Code Enforcement Magistrate totaled 43. Compliance has either been achieved in these matters or a fine is running against the violator. The section received \$9244.78 in fines.



During the year, there were 84 complaints and questions referred to outside agencies, requiring no further action by the department. Another 141 calls for information and/or suggestions regarding various situations were handled within the Code Enforcement Section and required no report.

We have continued our cost cutting efforts to reduce expenses associated with each case processed. For the fourth consecutive year, we have seen persistent reductions in costs. Not only have our efforts saved time and money but also preserved and strengthened community relationships.



# **Department Education and Training**

## **Education**

Department personnel continued their developmental education at the college level during 2009. By the end of 2009, approximately 64% of the Police Department's full-time employees had some type of formal college education. The following data reflects Leesburg Police Department education statistics for the year.

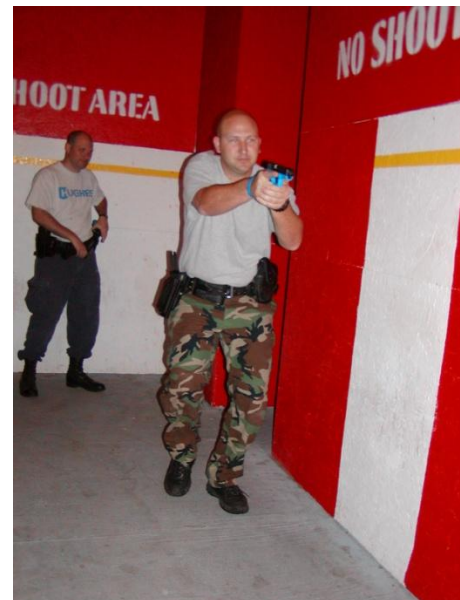


## **Training**

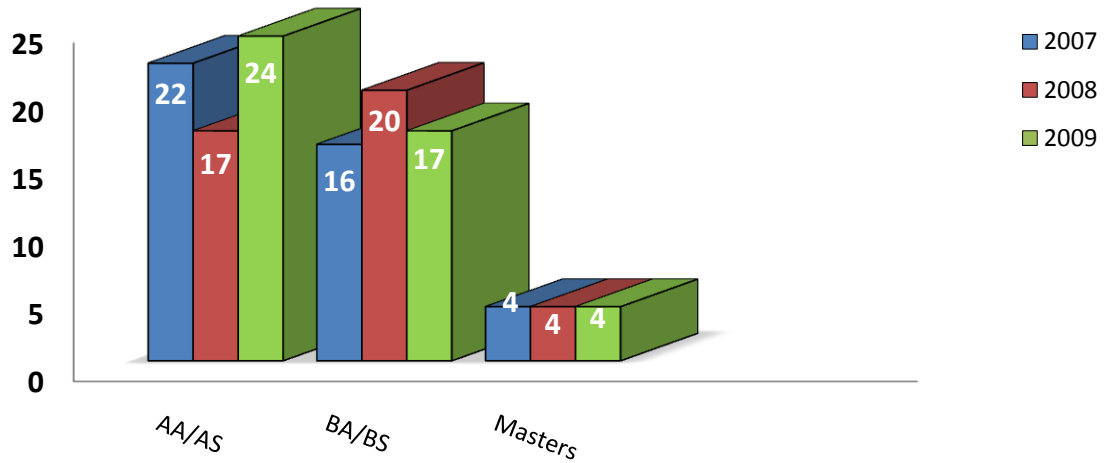
The Leesburg Police Department's education and training programs have proven successful during the 2009 calendar year. Education and training are the fundamental elements bringing law enforcement closer to a true profession. Our dedication to this endeavor is evident in the figures seen below.

The training administrator is assigned to oversee all aspects of department training. This person creates the annual training calendar, keeps track of mandatory training requirements as mandated by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), and hosts training covering police related topics for agencies throughout the state and county.

In-service training consists of job specific topics which include, but are not limited to, firearms, CPR, baton, criminal law updates, terrorism, blood borne pathogens, PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), aggressive drivers, defensive action, and policy review.



### Employees with Degrees



### Employees working on Degree

